

REPEATS GERMAN PEACE OFFER



Count Czernin is minister of foreign affairs for Austria-Hungary and is the latest high official of the central powers to reiterate their proposal for a peace conference to end the war.

CALL YOUNG MEN FROM 20 TO 23 YEARS' OLD IN FIRST 500,000

Washington, April 6.—Means of registering all single men between the ages of 20 and 23 fixed under the universal training bill and those to be exempted were discussed here by the executive council of the committee on labor of the National Defense Council.

Co-operation with state and municipal governments toward accomplishing this work will be sought under general plans of state aid in

placing the government on a war footing.

It apparently is the intention of the war department to aim for an army with 2,000,000 men as its first object, the men to be raised in increments of 500,000 as rapidly as they can be officered and trained. All single men in the early twenties will be subjected to the first draft under the plan.

Sec'y of War Baker went to the capitol Thursday to explain to Sen. Chamberlain, chairman of the senate committee on military affairs, the war department's bill to raise an army of about 2,000,000 men in two years by compulsory service.

The measure has been approved by the president. It will be formally presented to the military committees of congress within a few days.

It took the president a long time to become reconciled to it and it was several weeks before the Council of National Defense could secure a unanimous vote of its membership on universal training as the best way to raise an army.

Under the circumstances Democratic leaders in congress predict rather extended debate on the question, but they feel that under the pressing circumstances it will go through more quickly than in normal times.

The government plans to start into the great war with a budget of \$3,400,000,000.

This vast sum will be raised through bond issues.

The rate of interest on the bonds is to be around 3 or 3½ per cent.

The federal reserve board, as previously planned, will have charge of the task of contemplated issues as well as of financing all war expenses.

New York. — Ruth Law, Chicago-New York flight record holder, got back from France with a French dog wearing a helmet and offered to drive "a fast little scout plane" for Uncle Sam.